

# MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



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Farm · Home · School

*Don't Forget*

**THE CHRISTMAS SHORT COURSE  
AT MACDONALD COLLEGE**

- Again this year, from December 27th to 31st, a Short Course, for people active in community organizations, will be held at the College.

***Details are on page 10***





## Why People Take to Farming

One of the noticeable trends in Canada today is a tendency for people from towns and cities to take up farming. Of course, some of these are hobby farmers; but many more are taking to the land as a full-time job, having cut all the ropes that tied them to their previous occupations.

It would be difficult to point out any one reason for this move. There has always been a tendency for business and professional men to hark back nostalgically to their youth on the land, or to daydream about the time when they could have a farm of their own. But now more of them seem to be going beyond the dreaming and talking stage, and actually making the big step.

Part of this move may be due to the effect of the war in tearing so many people up from their settings, moving them around and giving them a chance to see diverse aspects of life, both in this country and overseas. A great many of them came back with an entirely different set of values and, having seen other ways of life which they preferred, they found it difficult to settle down in their former occupations.

Another possible reason is the challenge to catch up to the present day possibilities in agriculture. More than one authority has claimed that there have been more advances in agricultural knowledge during the last generation than in all previous history; and even if this statement does appear a little extravagant, we must certainly admit that the advances have been very great. To be a really good farmer today, one must indeed master many sciences — and not only master them, but integrate them. Such a condition in any industry appears very attractive to people of ability, imagination and initiative; so this probably accounts for some of the movement to the land.

The broad changes that have taken place in farming and farm life during the last 10 years have probably played a very great part. The extension of power lines has revolutionized farming in many sections, bringing

diverse operations right into the midst of the machine age. It has made it much easier to endow farm homes with the comforts and conveniences of city dwellings. Power has taken over many of the donkey jobs and has shortened the chore time that used to keep farmers going from long before dawn till long after sunset; so now there is more time to devote to other things.

The infinite variety of modern farm equipment has real charm for those with a mechanical bent. The lever-pulling of the factory is replaced by a complex process which the operator must reason out to meet his special conditions. And the maintenance, repair and adaptation of this equipment provides a satisfactory outlet for real mechanical genius.

The status of the farmer has also changed in the eyes of the urban world since he has joined his fellows in speaking with a united voice. We are no longer regarded as ignorant, isolated people, always squabbling among ourselves. Since we have learned the value of organization we have been vested with a new dignity — and a new belief in ourselves and our calling.

But probably no single influence has been stronger than that of a few writers who have taken to the land. Louis Bromfeld, for example, has fired millions of readers, farmer and non-farmer alike, with a desire to repair man's ravages of nature, and to revitalize rural living. He has dramatized the facts of farming, and has inspired a broader understanding of, and greater enthusiasm for, the important role of farmers in deciding the future of a nation.

### Our Cover Picture

We have heard that we are going to have a hard winter — and we have heard that the winter will be mild. The grey squirrel, however, apparently inclines to the first viewpoint, and has overcome a certain distrust of humans in order to build up his winter supplies. Photo by Prof. Whitehead.

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# A Glance Back ... A Guess Ahead



Farm products may go down in price . . .

by G. L. Burton

**A**BOUT a year ago Canadian farmers were disturbed. The support price of Wiltshire sides had been dropped from \$36 to \$32.50 per cwt; the United Kingdom had terminated its egg contract; the support price of cheese had been lowered from 31 to 28½ cents per lb.; the demand for concentrated and dried milk products seemed to be slackening and, on top of it all, feed prices were up. The crest of the boom seemed to have been passed; apparently we were on the way down.

Things haven't worked out that way. The British bacon contract called for 60 million lbs. at \$29, with the Canadian Meat Board committed to buy at \$32.50 until July 1 or until the contract was filled. With hog markets up it seemed likely that the contract would be filled, the price support removed by mid-year, and the price of B1 hogs at Montreal down to \$25 before Fall. Instead, by the beginning of October only 17 million lbs. had been exported and the government had raised the buying price to \$33.75 for Wiltshire sides, thus increasing the subsidy on exports to \$4.75 per cwt. Even so the contract isn't likely to be filled. The export contract is no longer setting the domestic price and Canadian housewives, backing away from high beef prices, are buying more pork.

The man who correctly forecast still higher prices two years ago, when most economists were prophesying a depression, Dr. Burton has analyzed this year's market trends and has given us his opinion of what is likely to happen in 1951.



. . . and farm equipment may go up.

Milk prices for non-fluid uses are lower than a year ago but the price of milk for manufacturing has held better than that for cheese-making. The domestic and export demand for concentrated milk has strengthened during the summer, absorbed accumulated stocks, and is now attracting milk away from the cheeseplants. Both the output of butter and the stocks in storage are down from a year ago. It seems likely that the Prices Support Board will dispose of most of its butter during the winter season, and at a price which will meet original cost plus storage. Although the fluid milk distributors in Montreal have raised the price to the consumer by a cent a quart,

## The Box Score on Prices

		Oct. '50	April '50	Oct. '49
		\$	\$	\$
Good beef steers . . . . .	(1)	.27	.25	.20
B-1 hogs . . . . .	(1)	.29	.27	.30
Butterfat . . . . .	(2)	.57	.65	.61
Cheesemilk . . . . .	(2)	2.39*	2.47	2.72
Mfg. Milk . . . . .	(2)	2.57*	2.49	2.69
Eggs, A large . . . . .	(1)	.50	.38	.64
Feed barley . . . . .	(3)	1.35	1.40	1.35
Feed oats . . . . .	(3)	.86	.99	.74
Dairy ration — 16% . . . . .	(1)	3.95	3.85	3.65
Barley—Hog Ratio . . . . .		18.3	14.6	15.9
(1) Montreal (2) Province of Quebec (3) Fort William			*August prices.	



the Dairy Commission, at the time of writing, is still holding the price to the farmer at \$4.10 per cwt; rumours of a higher farm price are in the wind, however.

Egg prices are moderately lower than a year ago but have been steadier. Sales from a reserve of stored, oiled eggs, built up under the government's price support policy, held egg prices down during the period of short production in mid-summer.

Feed prices are still higher than last year but may well be on their way down. Eastern Canada had a good crop and the disastrous frost of August 16 in the Prairies made feed out of millions of bushels of potential bread wheat. The Honorable Mr. Gardiner sees an extra 200 million bushels of feed grains in the West and 100 million in Ontario and Quebec. The traders on the futures market are betting that feed oats will sell for 70 cents in the spring and feed barley at \$1.05. They could be right; if so it will be good news for the livestock, dairy and poultry producers. These two grains are now selling for \$.86 and \$1.35, respectively, in store, Fort William.

Although hog prices have held remarkably well, the relationship between them and grain prices is anything but favorable. The October 15 barley-hog ratio indicates that 100 lbs. of B1 live hog at Winnipeg will buy 18.3 bushels of feed barley. Back in the days when we were shipping hundreds of millions of lbs. of bacon to the U.K. the ratio was over 20. Although hog production has increased in Eastern Canada it is doubtful if many farmers are getting rich by producing and selling porkers. Lower feed prices would help them too. It should be remembered that the Government of Canada, ultimately the taxpayer — has for some years been making a substantial contribution toward this end by paying the freight on feed grains from the Lakeshead.

None has fared better than the beef producer this past year. Canadian cattlemen have the good fortune to live next door to a wealthy nation whose citizens both like beef and are incapable of producing enough to meet their own requirements. Canadian cattle prices advanced steadily during the spring months as American prices strengthened. By the end of the first week of October 244,000 head of butcher and feeder cattle had been shipped to the United States while the equivalent of another 100,000 head had gone out as beef. The Canadian consumer, with lower average earnings than his counterpart in the United States, has bought less beef in favor of other meats, fish or beans. The gain in value of our dollar since the removal of controls has helped him some.

### A Guess Ahead

So much for what's happened. Where do we go from here? Unfortunately the economists, like barbers, can only guess. There are, though, a few road signs in bold letters along the way. Most of these strongly suggest a



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rising price level for industrial products and, perhaps, only a steady market for farm products. These factors include:

- (a) A high level of investment by private individuals, firms and government. Such investment on new buildings, machinery and equipment is running as much as 10 percent ahead of that of 1949 and is absorbing the very high proportion of 22 percent of our total national output.
- (b) Heavy defence expenditures in Canada and the United States. Our Parliament has authorized the expenditure of some \$1.4 billion for defence. The United States Congress has authorized the expenditure of 20 times this amount and our price structure is tied in very closely with theirs. These heavy government expenditures, poured into an economy already operating at or near full employment, cannot fail to push up prices. Taxes too will be raised but not by enough to siphon off such huge injections of purchasing power.
- (c) Following devaluation, the gold and dollar reserves of the Sterling area have shown marked improvement. Since the United Kingdom has long been one of our best markets for many staple farm products, this development is encouraging. It is well to bear in mind, however, that the prices of many of Britain's raw material imports are increasing and unless the prices of her exports keep pace her volume of imports may well be checked.
- (d) Although a continued high level of consumer income will tend to hold the prices of food, it is unlikely that the price to the farmer will increase much for most products. The reason is to be found in large supplies of farm products. The agricultural industry in North America is producing abundantly and, barring drought, will continue to do so.

These conditions, then, all point toward a continuing high level of prices for farm products both at home and abroad but a *higher* level of prices for the goods which farmers buy. Machinery prices have been steadily on the march ever since decontrol in 1947; the present and prospective shortage of steel promises to push them even higher. Labor and material costs of other goods too are on the way up. These increases in the cost of components have a way of pyramiding the price of the final product since the common practice among wholesalers and retailers is to take a fixed percentage mark-up. Farmers are confronted with *stable* prices for their own products and *rising* prices for the goods they buy.

#### Summary

We have no troublesome surpluses of farm products, although there may have been more of a very few products produced this year than farmers can sell at what they regard as satisfactory prices — potatoes, for example.

The war in Korea and the expanded defence program to which it led have renewed the danger of inflation. A

high level of government expenditure guarantees a continuing high level of food prices and an even higher level of industrial prices. The re-armament program requires steel rather than butter and for this reason farmers are likely to find themselves in a squeeze between "prices paid" and "prices received".

### Keeps Potatoes from Sprouting

A hormone growth inhibitor, naphthalene acetic acid, was found highly successful in the prevention of sprouting of stored potatoes in tests conducted by the Federal Department of Agriculture over the last four years.

Marketed in Canada under the trade name "Barsprout", the chemical was found most effective when used as a dust and at storage temperatures from 50 to 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Irish Cobbler and Green Mountain potatoes were used in the tests.

The way it works is that the active ingredient of the chemical under proper storage temperatures vaporizes very slowly into the eyes of the potatoes in sufficient strength to inhibit sprouting. At lower temperatures it vaporizes too slowly to be effective and actually is unnecessary since little sprouting occurs in temperatures of about 39 degrees Fahrenheit or lower. If the temperature is too high, however, the chemical vaporizes too rapidly and gives only a short period of protection.

"Barsprout" should not be used on seed potatoes.

#### "JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"Take off that hunter's red cap! Want to get shot immediately?"



## Adult Education Fieldman Appointed for Townships

The appointment of Thomas Pickup, B.A. as a Field secretary for the Eastern Townships was announced to the annual meeting of the Eastern Townships Committee on Adult Education held in Lennoxville on October 30. Mr. Pickup was born in England, farmed in Western Canada, and took his degree as a veteran student at McGill after the war.

This appointment marks the re-opening of the Adult Education Office in Lennoxville which was closed when the Adult Education Service headquarters were transferred to Macdonald College in 1943. Mr. Pickup will work under a committee representative of organizations and centres in the Townships. Bishops University and Macdonald College will also be represented on the Committee. Twelve centres sent delegates to the annual meeting, Cookshire, Knowlton, Richmond, Asbestos, Stanstead, Windsor Mills, Mansonville, Ayers Cliff, Magog, Drummondville, Sherbrooke, and Lennoxville.

E. E. Dennison of Lennoxville, retiring president, reported the events leading up to the appointment of the Field Secretary, and stated that the purpose of the committee was to work with and through all organizations in the Eastern Townships whose aim was to improve living conditions in that area. A discussion of policy for the committee followed.

Officers elected were:

*Honorary President:*

Dr. A. R. Jewitt, Bishops University.

*President:*

Dr. A. N. Langford, Lennoxville.

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mrs. A. E. Abercrombie, Lennoxville, representing the Women's Institute.

Keith Bradley, Mansonville, representing Farm Forum Associations.

L. C. MacPherson, Stanstead, representing Community Schools.

*Treasurer:*

R. L. McIntosh, Lennoxville.

*Recording Secretary:*

Mrs. J. M. Styan, Magog.

*Corresponding Secretary:*

Mr. Thomas Pickup.

*Executive Members:*

C. W. Dickson, Richmond.

E. N. Scott, Drummondville.

E. E. Dennison, Lennoxville, Past President.

H. R. C. Avison, Macdonald College, Director, Adult Education Service.

The Field Secretary will have his office in Bishops University and by arrangement with the National Film Board will act as special film agent in the Eastern Townships.



## Market-Place

# 1950



Morning train and local bank—both are part of Brownville's daily life. They link Brownville with the whole outside world.

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# Fourth Generation Pioneers

Two sets of Scottish pioneers who settled in Lower Canada early in the 1800's have combined to give us the Lang family of Brysonville. On one of the original homesteads they have kept up the work of farm improvement; and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lang are both very active in promoting better conditions for farm people everywhere.

by J. S. Cram

THE boost of land rentals in Scotland early in the 1800's has had a profound influence on the history of Canada. It brought on one of this country's few mass migrations of people who had farming in their blood, and who took pride alike in fine fields and fine livestock.

Many of these Scots decided to settle in the section of Lower Canada that now comprises the counties of Chateauguay and Huntingdon. It was no easy task to carve homesteads out of the forest and to drain the swamps and turn over the soil, particularly in those unsettled days. But the newcomers were not used to an easy life; and they persisted in their task until the wilderness had been transformed into one of the most attractive farming districts in Canada.

Along with the Scottish farmers were others whose callings had led them away from the soil; but who had come from farm backgrounds and were gripped with the urge to settle in this new country. Neighboring with the others who knew farming intimately, they soon acquired a feeling for the land; and in the pooling of work that characterized these settlements, their skills and knowledge aided a great deal in the construction of sound, attractive



Mr. and Mrs. Lang with their three sons — Gordon, 21, Donald, 18 and Burton, 8.

farm buildings and the establishment of live community organizations.

Among these settlers were John Lang, a sea captain from Ayrshire, who homesteaded at what is now Aubrey, and John Younie, who settled at Brysonville, 10 miles north. Succeeding generations peopled the land around, and contributed to the other facets of Canadian development. Among the present generation, the great-grandchildren of John Lang and John Younie, are Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lang who, with their three sons — Gordon, 21, Donald, 18 and Burton, 8 — now farm the old Younie homestead at Brysonville. They also manage to carry a heavy load of community, provincial and national leadership.

When the directors of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture meet, Quebec's English-speaking farmers are represented on the board by J. D. Lang, who is president of the Quebec Farm Forum Association. Locally he is the leading spirit in the Upper Tullochgorum Farm Forum, the president of the Ormstown Artificial Cattle Breeding Association, long-time leader of the Ormstown Junior Calf Club and member of the Ormstown Hatchery Association. He is also in demand as a judge of both Holsteins and poultry, locally and in the Eastern Townships.

When the council of the Quebec Women's Institutes meets, Mrs. Lang reports as Provincial Convener of Agriculture. She is also county president of the Chateauguay-Huntingdon Women's Institutes, has served her term as chairman of the Howick local, and recently was presented with a life membership in the QWI. Before her activity in the broader spheres Mrs. Lang used to spend her spare time in winning Sheffield carving sets and silver-encrusted crystal vases for her entries in the cookery classes at local fairs.

It's only natural that leaders in rural affairs should be



A 14 year old Gold Medal cow with two Very Good daughters and two Good Plus granddaughters.



good farmers. The Langs' prestige would not be nearly so high if they had not made a success of farming and home-making.

The farm comprises 100 acres of heavy clay, all in rotation except the building site, plus an 18 acre woodlot a few miles away. As the farm is on an even slope, with a nine-foot fall from back to front, there's little trouble with drainage, and the land is reasonably early. Mr. Lang follows a rotation of two years grain, two years hay and two years pasture. Whenever possible he double-disks his stubble early in the fall, to germinate the weeds, then plows them under.

He grows mostly mixed grain, but usually has a five-acre seed plot of oats from registered stock of Cartier or Roxton; and his grain yields from 30 to 55 bushels an acre, depending on the season. His hay mixture, seeded with the second year of grain, consists of 10 pounds each of red clover and timothy, and two of alfalfa; alsike comes in by itself. From this mixture he harvests crops of from 1½ to 3 tons. During the first pasture year he applies 1,500 pounds of lime per acre, which he finds, gives a particular kick to the alfalfa. But having tried 300 pound applications of superphosphate and 4-8-6 for several years without getting any apparent results he is now using no commercial fertilizer.

#### Average Production High

Of course, he makes good use of the manure from his 35 head of registered Holsteins. At present he is milking 16 cows, all of them entered in R.O.P. He says he has no outstanding records; but the consistent production of his herd is shown by the fact that 10 daughters of one bull averaged 11,290 pounds of milk testing 3.9 percent fat, in their first lactation.

As for type, a Lang-bred bull, Cloverside Ragapple Ensign, has for two successive years won the reserve grand championship in the strong Holstein show at the Ormstown fair. Another Lang-bred bull, Cloverside Rag Apple Emblem, sired both the grand and reserve grand Holstein champions in the junior calf club show at Ormstown in the fall of 1949. And in herd classification three of his cows are rated Very Good and most of the others Good Plus.

One team of horses suffices to do the odd jobs, and they're certainly not over-worked. Most of the farming is done with a tractor. Considerable of the power equipment has been converted from the horse-drawn variety by 21 year old Gordon, who took a course in acetylene welding and is picking up quite a bit of machinery repair work. The binder which is still used to harvest the grain is 45 years old and still going strong — which speaks well for the care it has had. Threshing is done through a co-operative arrangement with a couple of neighbors.

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Apart from the cattle and the team of horses, the Langs have a couple of purebred Yorkshire brood sows which Gordon bought last spring. From them he has sold several gilts for breeding; and this, with the sales of commercial stock, has made the pigs quite a successful venture.

The poultry flock now numbers only 125 pullets — mostly hybrids of Red-Rock stock. Along with these pullets which Mr. Lang secured from the Ormstown Hatchery Association, Donald, the second son, got 125 males, 75 of which were caponized to bring a premium when dressed. All the old hens are culled each year.

### A Good Investment

The barn is big enough to take 65 tons of hay and 25 of straw, and there is room in the stable to tie 32 head of cattle, plus four boxes. The stable is equipped with electric lights, Co-op milker, water cups, feed truck and manure truck. Of it and the other buildings Mr. Lang says:

"When we had the chance to buy this farm the price seemed terribly high; but when we saw how sound the buildings were, it looked like a good investment." That was 20 years ago; and the buildings are still sound.

The house is attractive, and by present standards very large — 10 rooms, including a kitchen bigger than some four-room apartments. The construction is far from flimsy; it's built of two-by-sixes laid on their sides, and veneered with brick. Cut nails hold the structure together.

Of course, from these specifications it's apparent that the house wasn't built yesterday. It was put up by Mrs. Lang's grandfather in 1868, when permanence in a building seemed important. There's a well in the shed and a cistern installed in 1892, with a pump in the kitchen. The next project on the Lang books includes running water and plumbing.

The house is surrounded by a fine show of flowers, and grapes grow in abundance along the long porch. In front, more grapes fruit side by side with rows of red, white and black currants, all sheltered by a profusion of trees and shrubs. This is Mrs. Lang's domain. The kitchen garden and the orchard of 24 trees, mostly McIntosh, supply the family larder with fresh vegetables and apples. And a deep freeze, installed last season, helps to provide these for the table all year round.

All of these things haven't accumulated automatically. Jim Lang grew up on a farm only 10 miles away, but like most farm boys he wanted to make some money of his own. He worked at the Macdonald College poultry plant for two winters, then went to the Central Experimental Farm for two more. Then he was sent to Lennoxville to set up a poultry plant on the Dominion Experimental Station, and he stayed there for 11 years. However, this taste of working for someone else led to the belief that he would like to farm for himself. He had married Bertha Younie in 1927; and three years later they had a chance to buy the old Younie homestead.

To a young couple with little capital and a year-old son it looked like a big plunge; but they decided to take it. They also bought two registered Holstein cows at half the price they would have had to pay a year before; but the next year, with the depression really breaking, they couldn't have sold the cows for half the price they paid.

However, the cows proved a real investment. Their daughters were used to replace grade cows in the herd and in 12 years the whole herd of 36 purebreds was descended from the two original matrons. They were the only females Mr. Lang has ever bought. For 20 years now he has been building up his herd through using sires that carried good type and the ability to produce milk.

It hasn't all been easy going. At the beginning of the war, when the boys were still young and it was impossible to get help, it was necessary to cut down the sizeable operations that had been built up in poultry and swine; and even the dairy herd had to be stringently culled. But Mr. Lang has always followed the practice of selling the cattle he liked the least, so this culling did not interfere with his breeding program.

Now, even if feed is somewhat of a problem, family help is enough for most of the year, and during busy season the Langs exchange work with neighbors. They feed all the grain and hay that are grown on the farm, and sell fluid milk to the Verdun Protestant Hospital — their regular market for the last 14 years. Most of the surplus cattle are sold as breeding stock, as are the better pigs. There is a ready demand for the dressed poultry around Ormstown, with customers ready to pay premium prices for capons. Private customers in Montreal and the local grading station get the eggs. And surplus potatoes are sold locally or to the Verdun hospital.

The Langs have established their markets, as well as their production. In doing it, through first the depression and then the war years, they faced a struggle that would undoubtedly have impressed even Captain John Lang, whose sword and sextant now grace the kitchen wall. But they fought on, because they believed their objectives were worth fighting for. Now, with that battle pretty well on, they've widened their battle lines, to fight for better rural conditions throughout Quebec — and Canada.



The Lang homestead is well set in trees and shrubs.



## Avoiding Trouble With Septic Tanks

Capacity and design are two important items for homeowners to watch when installing septic tanks so they won't cause trouble in a few years.

Harold Beaty, extension agricultural engineer at Iowa State College, says that most septic tank troubles stem either from too small a tank or poor design. Many septic tanks installed in years past did not have adequate capacity or were too deep in relation to the size of the tank.

Certain minimum standards for septic tanks have been drawn up by the Iowa State College Extension Service, the Iowa State Department of Health, and representatives of the industry. Beaty says that septic tanks which meet these requirements will give little trouble in future years.

Minimum capacity below the water line is 500 gallons. This capacity will serve a maximum of six persons or will be adequate for a home having three or fewer bedrooms. A 750-gallon tank will serve up to eight persons or a 4-bedroom home. For 10 persons or a 5-bedroom home, the capacity should be 900 gallons.

For arrangements having more than one compartment, no compartment should have a capacity of less than 125 gallons to meet the standards. Minimum water depth in any compartment recommended is 4 feet, and the maximum water depth used in figuring capacity and general design is 6 feet.

By design, Beaty primarily means depth of the septic tank in relation to its width and length, or diameter of round tanks. It makes little difference whether tanks are square, round or oblong in shape as long as minimum and maximum depths are observed and as long as the capacity of the tank is large enough. If depth must be more than 6 feet to meet the required minimum capacity, too deep a layer of scum will form at the surface of the tank and will cause trouble.

Either tee joints or baffle boards may be used at inlets and outlets of septic tanks, according to Beaty. These help keep outlet and inlet pipes from clogging up with scum.

## Insulation for Chicks

Research work conducted at the Rhode Island College experiment station indicates that it might be profitable to insulate brooder houses for young chickens.

It was found that birds in non-insulated houses feather more rapidly and seem to gain more weight but that this extra weight was more than offset by the extra cost of heating — a problem almost eliminated when insulated brooders were used. There were no consistent differences in mortality with either type of house, the tests showed.

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## Christmas Short Course At College — December 27-31

An opportunity for further training in running community organizations, and a chance to pick up new ideas in agriculture, will be offered in the Annual Short Course at Macdonald College this year.

In response to requests from last year's students, the best features of former courses will be combined with a new series on the wise use of agricultural resources. Lectures, films, and discussions will deal with farm woodlots and soil conservation. A tour of College departments has also been added to the course. Recreation, community music, publicity, and handicrafts will be included, as in other years.

Anyone seriously interested in the welfare of the rural community may attend this course. Members of Farm Forums, Women's Institutes, Community Schools, Home and School Associations, officers of co-operative societies, teachers, agronomes, librarians are specially invited. The provincial department of Youth and Welfare offers railway fare and \$5 toward board and room to men and women between the ages of 18 and 30, but older people are equally welcome, and are urged to come.

Those who attend will live in the College residences and have their meals in the college dining room. The course will open on Wednesday, December 27, at 2:00 p.m., and will close on Sunday noon, December 31. For further information, write to the Adult Education Service, Macdonald College, Quebec.

## Paint or Whitewash? . . . Ready-Made or . . .

Whether to paint or whitewash depends on a number of things, says Angus Banting of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro. Both will clean up a place very well. Whitewash can include a disinfectant, and paint is naturally a disinfectant of a kind. Both can be obtained in forms of which will be good for outside use, or for inside use, and the best mixture of either for inside use is not the best for outside use. The big difference between the two is in cost and application.

Whitewash is very cheap, and can be easily applied with either a sprayer, such as can be used for applying ordinary garden sprays, or a large brush. But it is not as durable as paint, and it will provide relatively little protection to the surface of the wood.

There are a very large number of different kinds and types of paint to choose from when considering a paint job. It is possible for one to mix one's own paint from ingredients which may be purchased from most hardware stores or general stores, or one may buy ready-mixed paints.

Before one decides to mix one's own paint, Mr. Banting feels there are a number of points which should be considered. First of all, it should be remembered that it is difficult to match colours when mixing paint at home. For that reason, if one is planning to mix coloured paint, it is well to mix enough to do the full job, whether it is for outside or inside. This frequently means that there will be some left over, and it will most likely be wasted, for it is difficult to keep paint unless it is put in tight cans that are filled to the top.

Next, it must be remembered that paint must be mixed properly. This is important for either home-mixed or ready-mixed paint. Even after one believes the paint is pretty well mixed, it is a good idea to continue for at least a little while longer. Many painters, who mix their own paint in large batches, stir up a vat of oil, lead, and

so on, and let it stand for a while, then stir it up a second time, and even a third time before they consider it well enough mixed for application.

The chief advantage of using home-mixed paint is in the cost, says Mr. Banting, since one can buy the ingredients and mix the paint at home for less than the cost of an equal quantity of ready-mixed paint in the store. However, for small jobs, or if there happens to be much waste, this saving is often entirely lost.

The great advantage of ready-mixed paints is not in the fact that they are all ready proportioned, and colour true. The advantage is that one can get special paints for almost any sort of job. No longer is there just inside paint in which the chief ingredient is lead and the chief vehicle or carrier is boiled linseed oil, or outside paint with lead, raw oil, turps, and driers added. There are dozens of different kinds of inside and outside paints.

Some inside paints dry glossy; and these are useful on woodwork where a shine or gloss is desirable. Others dry with a dull finish and these are useful on walls where a dull effect, which is a lot easier on the eyes than a shiny wall is preferred. Some paints for inside work are not paints at all in the accepted sense of the word, but are really more like whitewash that has been coloured and some body added. These have neither expensive linseed oil nor expensive white lead in them, and so they can be put on the market at much lower cost than lead base oil paints. They are proving very popular and are very easy to apply.

For outside use, special paints have been developed to withstand all sorts of adverse conditions. For the most part no paint dealer can advise what to expect of his particular brand of paint. For ready-mix paints, Mr. Banting's advice is to buy paint of a reputable brand, and apply it according to the manufacturer's instructions.





## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec  
Department of Agriculture*

### Ted Bennett Wins the Sherbrooke Trophy



Ralph and Ted Bennett with the grand champion steer which sold at \$1.80 a pound.

THE Sherbrooke Fat Stock Show entered a new era this year — it has to buy a new trophy. For the third time in the show's 15 year history, a steer owned by F. G. Bennett & Sons of Bury won the grand championship over all breeds, entitling Ted Bennett to permanent possession of the big silver cup symbolic of the award.

The first exhibitor to stack up three major wins at Sherbrooke, Ted is a working farmer who has built up his herd the hard way and has bred two of his three winners. He has been exhibiting since the early days of the show and for several years he's been president of the Quebec Beef Cattle Association which sponsors the event. So the win was popular.

There was another angle, too, which made the win still more significant. At the cattle breeders' banquet on the evening preceding the sale the Hon. C. D. French, Quebec Minister of Mines, whose Herefords from his Cookshire farm are always keen contenders at Sherbrooke, said that the show owed a special debt of gratitude to three men.

The three he named were Ralph Bennett, Charlie Morantz and Geo. McTavish. Morantz is a Montreal buyer who paid high prices at the early Sherbrooke sales, encouraging more farmers to show. Geo. McTavish is one of the showmen who taught them how to bring out their cattle most effectively. And Ralph Bennett is now Chief of Livestock Marketing at Ottawa. But before that appointment he was in charge of the marketing service in Montreal. And seeing the great possibilities for livestock

development in the Eastern Townships he did everything he possibly could — a great deal beyond the mere performance of duty — to build up the show by streamlining the organization and "educating" potential buyers.

There was a good reason for Ralph seeing how much a good sale could help Eastern Townships farmers. He came from the Townships, himself. In fact, he is the elder son in F. G. Bennett & Sons. So this year's big win was a triumph for Ralph as well as for Ted and their father.

Rewards came to long-term exhibitors in the market lamb show, too. After trying to reach the top for nine years Garrett Chapman, farm manager for Slack Bros., Waterloo, reached the top with a lamb he had raised for Wilson Frizzle, Brome. A well-known figure around the Townships, Chappy made no secret about feeding his lamb on goats' milk. In fact, he credited the goat with the win, and said he was going to buy four more goats on his way home.

Two farmers from right around Sherbrooke took the lion's share of top prizes in lambs. Gordon McElrea of Lennoxville repeated his 1949 record in winning the reserve championship for wethers, and also topped the lambs 86 pounds and over and the pen of four lambs 85 pounds and under. And Douglas Ross of Sherbrooke, who had the champion last year, had best pen of four heavy lambs and pen of eight light lambs.

A newcomer copped the high honours in market hogs when Georges Ricard of St. Michel de Napierville got first both for pen of three and pen of five, with a remarkably uniform lot of fine hogs. Herve Houle, St. Simon de Bagot, took second in each category and Antonio Sevigny of Princeville, who won both major awards last year, had to be content with third place in each.

In the five classes of the market cattle show, nine of the fifteen top places went to straight farmers, with three going to juniors. C. E. Sharman of Bury won the first class, for steers 650 to 750 pounds, followed by Rhéo Brunelle of Gould with his junior club champion and Stuart Lyon of Sherbrooke, another junior. John Nichol of Lennoxville, a junior also, led the class for steers from 751 to 850 pounds, then came Irwin Watson and F. G. Bennett & Sons, both of Bury. Ted Bennett led the third class, steers 851-950 pounds, with Howard Lockwood, Danville, second and Norfolk Farms, Hudson Heights, in third place.



Tutira Farms, owned by Mrs. T. S. Stuart, Arundel, topped two classes — the third, for steers 851-1,050 pounds, and the fourth, 1,051 pounds and up — and H. R. Ross & Sons, Bromptonville, took third in each. Wallace Lavallee, Bromptonville, took second in Class 4, and Howard Murray, Magog, second in Class 5.

When the Shorthorn tops were brought back for championship judging, the competition was mostly among the two Tutira steers and Ted Bennett's, with Ted coming out on top. In the Angus, the championship went to Howard Lockwood, and reserve to Wallace Lavallee. And in the Herefords, John Nichol's calf got the grand, and an entry of Hon. C. D. French was reserve.

Then came the championship of the show. The grand award was pretty well conceded by the gallery, but reserve placing differed, according to the person talking. Some favoured the Tutira reserve Shorthorn, some the Lockwood Angus and some the Nichol Hereford. Judge Clinton Devlin of Canada Packers Ltd., Toronto, made the most of the situation, throwing the crowd off the track. Then he gave the first nod to Ted Bennett, and the second to Lockwood. It was a popular decision. In a flash almost everyone was over the side of the ring, to congratulate the winners, and to go over the steers with a new respect.

Only 114 steers entered the ring this year, compared with 128 in 1949, but the standard was higher. At least part of the reason for this was that the culling committee had disqualified 25 steers — and on looking them over it was easy to see the reason. They were plain, without the proper finish, and could not be rated above ordinary commercial cattle.

With the beef market rather uncertain after several drops, farmers were inclined to be a little doubtful about how good the sale would be. But when Charlie Morantz started the Bennett grand champion at \$1.00 and Auc-



Geo. Crawford with C. C. Warner's champion Shorthorn bull, ordered by telephone from Claude Gallinger, Tofield, Alta.

tioneer Ray Demers kept picking up bids fast until he knocked him down at \$1.80, hopes picked up. The T. Eaton Company Ltd., paid the high price, 30 cents over last year's top and equal to the 1948 record.

In a sale where each steer went through the ring in one minute. Howard Lockwood's Angus, grand champion for the breed and reserve for the show, brought 90 cents, again from Eaton. This was almost equal to the 1949 price of 95 cents for the reserve champion. John Nichol's champion Hereford went to Edgar Mailhot, Montreal at 60 cents — up 5 cents from last year's Hereford high.

From there the prices started down, but only three sold below 35 cents — two at  $33\frac{3}{4}$  and one at 32 cents. So only one steer sold below the 1949 average, which was 32.39 cents. This year's average was 38.6 cents — about 10 cents above the Montreal price, and the highest Sherbrooke average on record.

Although the top price for hogs didn't approach the 1949 price of \$2.05, it did go considerably higher than at any other sale, when Canada Packers Ltd., Montreal, paid \$1.55 a pound for Ricard's top pen of three. Modern Packers, Montreal, followed up with a price of 75 cents for Ricards' pen of five — just 10 cents below last year's price. The low price was 30 cents for 15 hogs, but most of the pigs, sold above 31 cents, and the 115 hogs averaged 36.86 cents.

When Garrett Chapman brought the champion lamb into the ring, bidding mounted quickly until it stopped at Steinbergs' offer of \$4.25 a pound, 20 cents above last year's high. Gordon McElrea's reserve lamb brought \$1.00 a pound from Eaton's, up 15 cents from 1949. The lowest price for lambs was  $31\frac{1}{4}$  cents, and the average worked out at 39.63 cents.



Garrett Chapman with W. Frizzle's \$4.25-a-pound lamb.



## GOOD JUNIOR SHOW

There were 62 calves — 40 heifers and 22 steers — in the junior club show, and 45 juniors competed in beef cattle judging, which was won by Ian Kirby of Cookshire. In Hereford heifers Robert Nichol of Lennoxville took first place, forcing his older brother, John, into second position. Carol Bennett, Lennoxville and Audrey

Hoy, also of Lennoxville, carried off the first two places in Shorthorns. It was a big day for Lennoxville juniors.

Rhéo Brunelle, Ste. Marguerite, led the steer class with a Shorthorn, followed by John Nichol with a Hereford. In the pairs, Rhéo Brunelle and Jerome Hebert of Ste. Marguerite took first and John and Robert Nichol second.

### Three Champions



John Nichol with the top Hereford; Rhéo Brunelle with the best steer in the junior show; Howard Lockwood with his reserve champion.

## Competition Keen in Breeding Stock

The purebred cattle show at the Sherbrooke Winter Fair was the best on record, with improvements all along the line. Among the visitors who commented on the calibre of the show were David Andrew, secretary of the Canadian Hereford Breeders' Association and R. S. Gilbert, Director of Agricultural Education for New Brunswick.

Competition in Shorthorn classes was keen, with 26 exhibitors out including quite a few junior calf club members. The junior and grand championship for bulls went to C. C. Warner of Lennoxville on Killearn Max Perfect, a summer yearling Mr. Warner had ordered by telephone from Claude Gallinger, Tofield, Alta. Clayton E. Sharman of Canterbury took reserve junior with Mountain View Ransom 9th. Senior champion and reserve grand went to Cluny Potentate (Imp.) for Ross Edwards, Hillhurst, and reserve senior went to J. P. MacIntosh, Bolton Centre, on Mac-Mad-Bar Fairy Prince.

In females, Ross Edwards took the senior and grand with Sovereign Queen 33rd, his senior yearling heifer. Reserve senior and reserve grand went to Kilwin Farms, Lachute — a new exhibitor at Sherbrooke — on Miriam Rosewood 3rd. Junior championship went to Tutira Farms, Arundel on Tutira Fairy Queen, and reserve junior to C. C. Warner on Warnland Duchess.

In groups, Clayton E. Sharman won the get of sire class, followed by C. S. Wilson, Lachute and John P. MacIntosh. MacIntosh had top breeder's herd, with C. C. Warner second and Ross Edward third. C. E. Sharman, C. C. Warner and John F. Martin & Sons, Bury, took the top three places for three calves, bred and owned by exhibitor. And progeny of dam went to John P. MacIntosh, followed by Ross Edwards and the Estate of Jas. A. Woodward, Lennoxville.

Hereford breeding classes showed more competition. Junior championship was won by young Robert Nichol this year, with 12 exhibitors out, six of them juniors. Top honors in bulls went to Hon. C. D. French, Cookshire, with the senior and grand championship on his aged bull, Ringwood Domitone 18th. Reserve senior and reserve Grand went to Green Hills, Farm, Lennoxville, on Whitson Del Lento, and junior championship to the same exhibitor on Earl Domino Heir. Alex MacDonald & Sons, Sherbrooke, won reserve junior.

Senior and grand championship for females went to C. A. Tanner, Windsor Mills, on Ringwood Aster Lass and reserve senior and reserve grand to a new exhibitor — W. M. Cottingham, Lachute, on Miss Carlos Domino 2nd. of Lennoxville with his calf club heifer and Tanner took the reserve.



Ringside scene with Ray Demers (second from right) auctioneering, and Victor Pelchat (right) announcing.



In the groups, C. A. Tanner won the herd class, followed by Hon. C. D. French and Green Hills Farm. Green Hills took the get of sire, progeny of dam and breeder's herd, with Lyon second in get and herd and third in progeny, and French second in progeny and third in get and herd.

The Aberdeen-Angus classes were mostly a two-way competition between Dr. G. R. McCall of Lachute and Howard Murray of Magog, with three entries from L. S. Webster, Massawippi. In bulls, Dr. McCall took the grand, junior and reserve junior awards while Howard Murray annexed the other awards. McCall had all the major wins in females, and topped all the groups except the progeny of dam.



Georges Ricard (dark suit, centre foreground) with his best pen of three market hogs.

## To Study Beef Production

Pierre Labrecque, Director of the Animal Husbandry Service of the Department of Agriculture, led a delegation of provincial officials who attended a meeting in Ottawa on October 16 and 17 of the National Beef Cattle Committee.

Chief business transacted was a reorganization of the committee to facilitate study of all the phases of beef production, so that recommendations may be made to the National Advisory committee as to means for improvement in production, transport, and sale of beef cattle, as well as methods for research and for publicity.

Marketing of beef cattle is directly affected by production methods; and there is room for much improvement in methods of shipping beef cattle to market so that they arrive with the minimum of bruising and wounding. Another project that is to receive study is the possibility of using abandoned or unused farms as feeding lots.

## Two New Sheep Clubs

The Department of Agriculture was responsible for the creation of two sheep breeding syndicates last year at St.

Prosper and at St. Benjamin de Dorchester, in a section of the province where the nature of the country and the type of soil is particularly adapted to sheep farming. Agronome Maurice Dirren was responsible for organizing these activities.

The results of his efforts has been the organizing of two Junior sheep clubs, and the members of these two clubs brought 400 head to a show and sale at Morrisette Station last month, where Camille Bouchard supervised the auction, buyers at which were Canada Packers and Legrade Inc. of Quebec City. Buyers for these firms remarked particularly on the uniformity and fine condition of the stock offered. The success of these two clubs has been such that the Department is taking steps to organize others, at Ham South, Wooton and St. Camille, and purchased some fifty head of extra good ewe lambs at the auction to get the new clubs started.

Prices paid at Morrisette Station ranged from 28½ to 28¾ cents a pound, according to quality and weight; light lambs went for 25 cents. The lambs bought by the Department were paid for at the top price for the day.

Help given by the Department in getting new clubs started consists of supplying one good ram, free, for each two members of the club, and a grant to assist in the purchase of ewe lambs.

Inasmuch as the market price at the time of the sale was 27 cents in Montreal, less transportation charges and costs of sale, the members of the two clubs that organized the sale at Morrisette feel very satisfied with their venture.

## Poultrymen Ask Action

The Quebec Poultry Co-operative, which is a federation of co-operative and private hatcheries in the province, at its fifth annual meeting recently, went on record as demanding that all hatcheries in Quebec should come under provincial certification. Another request that was made was that the Federal Department encourage the production of Grade A stock by granting a premium as is done for A and B1 hogs. It was the opinion of those at the meeting that if such an inducement were offered, poultrymen would take definite action to improve their feeding methods, and that the general quality of poultry products would be appreciably raised. The necessary steps were also taken to make it possible for killing stations, and egg candling and grading posts, to become members of the co-operative.

The Department of Agriculture was asked to have an account book drawn up, one particularly adapted to poultry farming, so that poultry raisers would have a uniform accounting system at their disposal to help them keep track of expenditures and revenues, so that they would be able to get a clearer picture of their operations, and especially their costs of production.



## How Not To Handle A Crop

by Roger R. Cote, I.F.

It was one of those beautiful days in early December, with the ground lightly covered with a fresh layer of snow. I had left East Angus early in the morning on a regular trip and was enjoying the typical Eastern Township scenery; snow covered fields with mountains covered by magnificent growths of spruce and balsam in the background.

As I was passing the railway station at Ascot Corners I noticed that an unusual amount of activity was in progress, and, being curious, I stopped to find out what was going on. Curiosity was easily satisfied; carloads of Christmas trees were being loaded for shipment to the United States, and steadily growing piles of trees, neatly tied together in bunches, were being built up at the side of the tracks as fast as they could be unloaded from the trucks that were hauling them in.

"This is a nice cash crop for these farmers," I said to myself, "and if they have any amount of trees on their farms, it is a crop that can be harvested year after year just so long as they don't overdo it." Then, being curious by nature, and also interested, since I am by profession a forestry engineer, I decided to follow one of the empty trucks to find out just what was going on.

Here and there along the road I passed small piles of trees lying by the roadside, waiting to be picked up by a truck. But presently I came to a farm where the front yard was covered to a depth of several feet with small trees, and I could see at once that, if these all came from the same farm, the cutting had been grossly overdone. So I stopped the car and called in at the house, where I found the farmer at home and glad to chat with me.

After the usual preliminaries, I got down to the real reason for my visit, and asked the farmer point blank how many trees he had cut for sale this year. "I have no idea," he said, "My son could tell you, for he counts them as they are loaded into the trucks."

"Do you mean to say," I asked, astonished, "that you don't know how many trees you're planning to cut and sell this year? Don't you cut them yourself?"

"No," he replied, "I don't. A dealer came around a couple of weeks ago and offered me a price, which I accepted. His men arrived one morning and started cutting in my woods; I didn't even have to go with them to show them where to go. They know their business, and it was a lucky break for me."

I think he could see from my face how I felt about the whole thing, but, as I told myself, they were his trees, and there was nothing to keep him from selling them if he wanted to. Nevertheless, I felt sure that he didn't

realize just what he had done, and so I asked him if I could go with him up to the woods to see what condition they were in now that the cutting was finished. He agreed, and off we went.

I must admit that he was shocked when he saw his woods. The finest of the spruce trees, and even balsams down to 3 or 4 inches in diameter, had been ruthlessly cut five or six feet above the ground, and there was nothing left except crooked trees, diseased trees, and the stumps of once-good trees that would never be good for anything at all. The results of years of growth has been completely wiped out.

The farmer realized, but too late, that he had destroyed what could have been a source of steady, profitable cash returns. Before I left I managed to make him understand that selling his young spruce and balsam trees was a legitimate business, and could be a paying one, but only if cutting was done in a reasonable fashion. Isolated trees growing in pastures make good Christmas trees; in the woods, thinning out the growth every fall will provide a supply of these trees and give the small trees a chance to grow into marketable trees. But it never does to let the dealers do the cutting, for they have little interest in conservation; all they want is a load. Any trees that are cut for this market should be cut by their owners.

We parted the best of friends, and I knew that what he had learned from our talk would be passed on to his neighbours. The Christmas tree trade is a boon to many farmers in this province, and, with just a little care, it can be a source of yearly income without any permanent damage to the farmers' woodlots.

## Hog Population Is Holding in Quebec

It takes some time for figures to come out of the Bureau of Statistics, but this is not the fault of the people who work there. When it comes to a question of counting livestock on farms, many reports must be brought together from many different sources before the figures can be worked on.

At any rate, the figures on livestock population on farms, as at the first of June, 1950, were released last month as far as hogs are concerned. They show that, at that date, Quebec farmers owned 1,249,000 hogs, 255,000 of them six months or more old, and 994,000 less than six months of age. During the first six months of the year, 1,305,700 piglets were farrowed, and 1,047,000 of them were saved, which makes the percentage loss 19.7%, just a little higher than during the same period in 1949.



## Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

Our Farm Forum Rally certainly had a very interesting guest speaker in the person of Elwood Wilson one of the provincial district foresters. He does not hesitate to talk straight out about the damage done by indiscriminate cutting of woods. He recognizes the need for legislation to regulate it but seemed to think it was unobtainable unless there was a strong demand for it. Farm Forums might help to create that demand. At the same time it was encouraging to hear what has been done and is being done in the way of re-forestation. What has been done is, of course, already yielding benefits and at the same time, shows that it is possible, practical and profitable to undertake such work. What is being done will yield benefits and shows that interest is increasing. However it does not seem as if as much is being done in our district as in the one where Mr. Wilson works. We have been trying for several years to get a visit from our forester but have not seen him yet.

Our experiment with saving red clover for seed did not turn out as well as the timothy did. For some unknown reason the Dollard clover turned out to be about ten days later than the check strip of local seed. When we went over to fence off the part for seed, it was barely budded while the other was in full bloom. When it was time to cut it only about one head in three was ripe and they had very few seeds in them. So we cut it for hay and let the seed idea go. We have another spot seeded to the Dollard for next year and we shall see how it turns out.

The fall rye doesn't seem to grow as well this year. There are several possible reasons for it, one, of course, being that the weather is unfavourable for any kind of growth. Another is that part of it was sown rather late,

about the first part of September, if one wants fall pasture. But what we imagine is the main cause is that we used no nitrogen fertilizer. The last piece sown had some 0-14-7 on it along with manure while the first one had only manure. In both cases there was some material to plow under which is supposed to use up nitrogen in first stages of decomposition. A fall crop has to make quick growth if it makes any so probably a nitrogen fertilizer is called for. At any rate we got better growth when we used one and we shall do next time we try the crop. We shall not lose anything as the sod will be rotting whether we get any pasture or not and getting ready to be seeded down for real pasture.

That is what we got on the other half of the same field where we sowed ladino in the spring. We top-dressed it late in August and shut the cattle off for most of September. It grew up heavy enough to cut for the silo with the nurse crop of oats practically invisible. In fact when the judge for the local ladino competition came around, he thought we were trying to palm off a second year field of ladino on him for a new seeding.

The turnip field which looked so discouraging in the spring turned out a splendid crop. We filled our usual space with only about two-thirds of them and had to put the rest in the

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end where we extended our stable in the barn. We have a very good boy to turn the turnip-cutter this year as we put a motor on it. Now everyone wants the job of cutting them where no one wanted it before.

It is surprising how much work there is in making changes in a stable. It is an expensive time for it but we had the cows and the feed for them and the foundation needed fixing anyway. We have tried to do it out of income instead of borrowing for it and it keeps things pretty close. It meant four less cows to sell besides the extra expense and the income did not start until this fall since the extra ones were first-calf heifers, in fact we have ten first-calf heifers this fall out of fifteen milking. Three more are in their second lactation.

It doesn't look too good for the hog business just now. If the freight payments on grain are suspended feed will be entirely out of reach unless the western farmer takes less or the middlemen a lot less. If grain and bacon get out of line then hog production is going down and the consumer will have to pay to get pork. In the meantime this is just when we need to buy up a new supply of weanlings to avoid a surplus of skim milk. The older pigs are getting ready to go and some young ones need a start before they go. Probably the only thing to do is to buy them and hope for the best. We have seen the neighbours get scared out of the hog business only to get back in again.

This is the time when I feel that farmers are certainly organized in some respects. There is such a rash of annual meetings that we can't get to all of them. First it was the Farm Forum rally. Then we got a lull but now things are really breaking loose. Last night it was the district Jersey club. To-morrow is the Co-operative creamery. Two days after it is the artificial breeding club. Three days after that it is the Quebec



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### W.I. Office News

Miss Bruneau is away to a flying start and reports most enthusiastically on her first two courses, Canterbury — rugmaking, and Knowlton's Landing — weaving. "The ladies were all so interested in the work and so good to me", she says, "that I just enjoyed every minute of the time". Husbands are being asked to make rug frames at the former place and one member is already talking about stair treads. At

Knowlton's Landing, a member had ordered a loom, another is doing so and three more are planning on similar action as soon as possible.

Another member of the office staff, the Demonstrator, Miss Campbell, after a busy round of fairs, journeyed to Bury where she visited the Juniors and gave them instruction in linoprinting. She was equally pleased with her first class. The girls were keen about their work and are determined to make their W.I. a success.

Both Miss Bruneau and Miss Campbell have a full schedule ahead of them, with the former carrying on the work as arranged by her predecessor, Miss Birch, which will carry her through until June, 1951, and Miss Campbell already booked up until the end of the year, with tentative dates on into the winter.

Word has been received from Miss Birch that she had a safe journey home where she is spending a few days before starting her new work in the Nanaimo Indian Hospital.

"Good Cooks of the W.I." is proving most popular. Letters keep coming in saying "When the other members saw my cook book they wanted one too. Have you any more?" Yes, we still have quite a few on hand and orders will be filled while they last. The price, 35 cents.

"Cookery Around the World", the international cook book, has not arrived yet. It will take time to clear away the work after such an event as the A.C.W.W. Conference but they will be coming along and orders taken at the June Convention for these books will be filled promptly when they arrive.

### Beet Tops for Feed

With sugar beet production going up by leaps and bounds in Quebec, many of our farmers are finding themselves with a somewhat unfamiliar by-

product on their hands — or rather, on their fields. We refer to beet tops.

Experiments carried out at the Experimental Station at Lethbridge have shown that used as feed, three tons of beet tops are as good as one ton of alfalfa hay. Given an average yield (11 or 12 tons of beets to the acre) there will be 3 or 4 tons of tops left after the harvest, which will have a feeding value, in terms of alfalfa, of from \$20 to \$25. This is another advantage to growing sugar beets for the refinery, which, by the way, is having its most successful season ever.

### Athelstan Makes Good Butter

Champlain Milk Products, the butter factory at Athelstan in Huntingdon County, won third prize for its butter exhibit at the Toronto Exhibition this summer. The butter on display, made in June, scored 96.2 points in the judging.

The buttermaker, A. E. Rhiel, has won before in Toronto. In 1936 he won the Sherwin-Williams Trophy and that donated by the Keewatin Lumber Company in 1937, 1938 and 1942. In 1934 and in 1935 he won the Canadian National Exhibition Trophy and the K.B. Hunter prize 1942. In 1934 and again in 1942 he won the special prizes offered by the Manitoba Dairy Association, and a special prize from the Province of Quebec in 1935, 1936 and 1937. Mr. Rhiel is a graduate in dairying of the University of Manitoba.

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## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes  
and to matters of interest to them*

### An Old Kentish Farmhouse

by Beryl Olsen

(An interesting article received from a member of the Barming W.I. in Kent, in which she tells what she did to improve an old English farm house).

In England today, our housing shortage is very acute, and new houses almost impossible to obtain. One of the happier results of this shortage, is that in the country districts and villages, many old houses and cottages, previously falling into disrepair, are now being restored and saved from condemnation.

I live in a small village in Kent, which some of you that visited us through the war may remember is known as the Garden of England. Apart from the fruit and hops that take up so much of the land, this county abounds in these picturesque old farm houses with their typical red tiled roofs, sloping almost to the ground, and old round oast houses, with their conical coverings pointing sharply to the sky. Many of these old oast houses are now becoming obsolete, as fruit trees replace hops, but they are taking on a new lease of life when enterprising people turn them into attractive houses.

In our Women's Institute, where home and village life are naturally of first importance, this housing topic crops up very often. The news that a cottage or house is available has only to be whispered and no matter what its condition you can safely bet it will be snapped up at once. Many of our members already possess some really beautiful examples of the Kentish farmhouse and are doing stalwart work in preserving them.

If you are lucky enough to possess one of these beautiful old houses, and after the necessities of life have been installed when you're sure the bath water runs away, and the cooking stove heats — then you may look around at your old house with a discerning eye, noting how its beauty and crooked charm can be turned to a more practical purpose. Its walls, two feet thick, the doorways not now in use, and the many secret places so often found in these 16th century homes, can all be utilized in some way.

These photographs show how some parts of my old house have been made to serve a more useful and decorative purpose.

In the thickness of an outside wall this attractive bookcase was built about four feet up from floor level. After the space had been made, the top, bottom and sides were lined with wood and shelves, to take the books, built across.

In another photograph you can see how an old farmhouse doorway, once used as a pay door to pass earnings through to the hop pickers, has been utilized to build another type of bookcase. The two beams at the side are not what they appear to be, but a facing of old oak planking to give the effect. Floors in an old house never run straight, of course, and the piece of oak facing at the bottom of this bookcase shows how you must use your initiative to the best effect.

The beautiful niche cupboard, shown in another photograph, was found in a builder's yard and purchased for under two pounds. The space this was fitted into is a shaft running right down the house, and is part of a secret warren of escape passages used by smugglers in far off days. The photograph taken from under the stairs shows another part of these escape passages after the plaster had been removed and the old stepped up brickwork of the chimney stack exposed. This made a very attractive and unusual treatment for a staircase.

Of course one has to learn to negotiate the many odd steps and stairs you find. No two rooms ever seem to be on the same level, but the fascination and peace of these ancient homes makes it seem possible to believe in the saying, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good".





## The Month With The W.I.

Copies of the resolution passed at the Convention asking for reforms in the Protestant Women's Jail, Montreal, on which the Q.W.I. is taking joint action with the Montreal Council of Women, were sent to each branch in time for the first meeting of the fall. The reports this month show nearly all have signed this and sent it on to Premier Duplessis. The letter drawn up by Alberta women regarding treatment for sex perverts, was also sent to all branches and again reports reveal this has been signed by the members and sent to the various Federal representatives from this province. The Q.W.I. Board is most grateful for this whole-hearted co-operation on these vital matters.

Varied rollcall formed helpful additions to the programmes and reports of the Q.W.I. convention are mentioned frequently, showing delegates have been alive to their responsibilities.

**Argenteuil:** Brownsburg at a very busy meeting heard an address on "Nutrition" by Dr. A. Coté, distributed recipes among members, presented a member with a sheaf of gladioli on the occasion of her 40th wedding anniversary and welcomed three new members. This branch won several prizes, including fifth for the best display at Ottawa Exhibition. Frontier had a small exhibit of handicrafts and a demonstration on hooked rug making. They also catered to the School Fair and donated money toward prizes. At Lakefield Mrs. Ross Evans, who recently returned from England, gave an interesting talk on the highlights of her visit. A card party and Food Sale held recently netted the fine sum of \$80. Lachute members answered the rollcall by describing an interesting place they had visited. The Lachute High School teachers and their friends were entertained at the tea hour. Upper Lachute and East End heard an instructive talk on "Poliomyelitis", given by Dr. Turcotte.

**Beauharnois:** The fall and winter season of the Nitro branch began with a full turn out of members. Plans for the season's activities and resolutions re the public highway were discussed. After the business meeting members of the vicinity were invited to hear Dr. C. L. Roman, of Montreal, speak on the "History of this Locality". This proved so enjoyable it was decided that more open evenings would be held. Nitro No. 2 has formed a class for girls to instruct them in the rudiments of handicrafts. The worthy aim of this branch is to help the children and at present a travelling basket is in circulation to raise funds for a radio to be presented to the school. An informal tea was enjoyed by all present.

**Bonaventure:** Black Cape made plans to present prizes to the pupils of their Consolidated School. Marciil sent a parcel of clothing to Rimouski Fire Relief, voted \$15 to County Scholarship Fund and realized \$17.45 at a food sale held on the Fair Grounds. New Carlisle Juniors enjoyed a weaving course given by Miss Birch,

held a successful bridge and presented their president, Miss Helen Hall, who was leaving to attend Ormstown High School, with a gift. New Richmond sent two parcels overseas and made a donation to the Manitoba W.I. Flood Fund. Mrs. Fallow read an interesting paper on "The Peace Garden". Port Daniel realized \$65.45 at an afternoon tea and food sale and held a poster painting contest. Shigawake packed an overseas parcel and entertained the county president, Mrs. R. Skene.

**Brome:** The Abercorn Branch reports a food sale, a picnic, and four quilts made and sent to Manitoba Flood Relief. Plans for the School Fair were made. South Bolton observed Grandmother's Day and entertained county annual convention, with an attendance of 75 members from all the branches. A hospital bed for the use of the community has been purchased. Sutton sent boxes of clothing to Manitoba Flood Relief and old cotton to the Cancer Society. Lunch was served at the Legion Hall for 200 blood donors and plans made for an installation ceremony for the plaque they have obtained for their town clock.

**Chat.-Huntingdon:** Aubrey-Riverfield reports canning apples for Howick High School hot lunches. Dr. M. R. Stalker gave an interesting talk on "The Changing Pattern of Medicine". A donation of jams, jellies, etc., was brought in for Barrie Memorial Hospital. Dundee enjoyed a reading, "The Lightening Rod Dispenser" by Mrs. H. A. Cameron and an informal talk by one of the local teachers on "Progressive Education". Franklin Centre sent used Christmas Cards to the Children's Memorial Hospital, and Dr. Davidson gave an informative talk on "Conditions in Malta and Berlin during the War". Hemmingford's guest speaker, Mrs. Lukas, a native of Hungary, told of agriculture and customs of her native land. Mrs.



Mrs. J. D. Lang, county president, receiving a County Life Membership pin from Chateaugay-Huntingdon County executive at a meeting held in Ormstown at the home of Mrs. C. J. Bryson. Left to right: Mrs. C. E. Petch, Mrs. Lang, and Mrs. W. Kerr, president Howick W.I. Mrs. Lang is a member of the Howick branch.





Cowansville W.I. at their picnic held at the home of Mrs. R. McCutcheon, West Brome. Standing — left to right: Mrs. McCutcheon, Mrs. Jarvis, Mrs. Wood. Seated: Mrs. G. Brown, county president, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Grimson, Mrs. Bashaw, Mrs. McClure, Mrs. Winsor, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Jenne. Mrs. Gibson, another member, took the picture.

Perras of Plattsburg, gave a demonstration of etched aluminum trays. Howick sent a donation of jams and jellies for the Barrie Memorial Hospital and Miss Ilene Ness gave an address on "The Well Dressed Woman". Huntingdon held a weiner roast and tea. Plans were made for a "Welcome" for school faculty and their families. Ormstown gave reason for and against women on the School Board (How could they think of any against) and made plans to cater for the Boys' Band at their supper in the Church Hall.

**Compton:** Brookbury presented a life membership to a member, gave a baby spoon to a new baby and made plans for a shower and oyster supper. This branch exhibited a model Danish School and dining-room at the fair. Bury seniors donated \$5 to the School Fair, and provided dinner for judges and teachers at that fair. The members have enjoyed trips to the Carnation Factory, Sherbrooke and East Angus Paper Mills. Canterbury W.I. was a guest and upheld one side of the debate "Does Education pay the Farmer's Wife", the prize going to the visitors. (What side were they on?) A model Danish Hospital was their exhibit at the fair. Bury Juniors made the following contributions to the joint booth at the fair: quilt, pillowslips, cushion covers, vanity set, socks, shell work and bear work. Cookshire welcomed the teachers and gave \$3 to the School Fair Fund. Canterbury had a course in rug-making from Miss Bruneau, her first class. \$5 was donated to the School Fair and a paper on "Education" and quiz on Quebec formed the programme at their meeting. East Clifton had a demonstration on making an Angel Cake, a quiz with prizes and exhibited Danish cooking at the fair. Scotstown held a Tombola which netted \$200. Their exhibit at the fair was a Danish doll.

**Gaspé:** L'Anse Aux Cousins has been busy indeed, with plans for the semi-annual, and the W.I. fair. A donation of \$5 was made to the Red Cross, and short course

at Haldimand Camp, and \$1 each to seven grades for school prizes. A mystery table netted \$4.60. Sandy Beach held a food sale at which \$19 was realized. A donation of \$10 was made to the Camp Haldimand short course. Wakeham reports donations to Manitoba Flood Relief and to the above short course. Travelling baskets netted \$29 and an air cushion was sent to a bed-ridden shut-in. York also reports a donation of \$10 to the short course and three members helped with work during the sessions. More travelling baskets here, to swell the funds.

**Gatineau:** Aylmer East had a talk by Mrs. John Bracken, wife of former premier of Manitoba, on "Women's Activities and Outlook in Western Canada" and discussed "Should Women serve on School Boards". Proceeds from a supper amounted to \$112. Eardley had many entries at Quyon and Shawville fall fairs. Kazabazua held a fine School Fair sponsored jointly by their W.I. and the Aylmer Farmers' Club. Catering to meals brought in \$23. District grandmothers were guests, with prizes awarded to the eldest great-grandmother and the youngest grandmother, also for "the best story told me by my grandmother". Wakefield at their meeting agreed that "Women should serve on the School Board". Needs of the proposed cottage hospital were discussed and members asked to put up a few extra jars of fruit and relishes. Plans are being made to put on a play in aid of the hospital. Wright heard an informative talk by the county president, Mrs. H. Ellard, on "What We Would Like to Know about Denmark" and another entitled, "Laws in Communistic Countries". \$5 was voted to the Cancer Society.

**Jacques Cartier:** Ste. Annes members are making blocks for a quilt. A coloured film on Denmark was shown and each member gave a brief item on something of interest about that country. Miss May Birch, our popular handicraft technician, who is a member of this branch, was presented with a gift prior to her departure for her home in British Columbia and two new members were welcomed, Dutch newcomers to this community.



Canterbury W.I. with their rugs. This was the first course given by Miss Bruneau and proved most successful.





Mrs. G. D. Harvey, provincial second vice-president, visits the L'Anse aux Cousins branch. Mrs. Harvey is third from the left.

**Missisquoi:** Cowansville held a successful School Fair, proceeds from the tea netted \$52. Gardens were judged and prizes given. Dunham bought paper towels and holders for the local school. Mrs. Baillon, guest speaker, gave a splendid talk on "Brazil". Fordyce has sold over 300 copies of their cook book and 100 copies of their Tweedsmuir History. Plans were made for a card party. Stanbridge East had a most successful School Fair and Hobby Show. Members gave items on Denmark and her people at their meeting. The county semi-annual was held at this place.

**Pontiac:** Beech Grove had an excellent exhibit at the Quyon Fair and Bristol Busy Bees discussed "What Education Really Means" at their meeting. A flower contest was held with each member wearing a home made corsage (Florists look to your laurels). Fort Coulonge also reports a flower contest when dining room table flower arrangements were displayed with prizes for the winners. Quyon held two afternoon teas during the month, sent a box overseas, and donated prizes to Quyon Fair for articles made by girls 9-11. Wyman had Mr. Gordon, Science teacher at Shawville High School, as guest speaker on the subject "New Methods of Teaching — Radio, Films and other projects used today". A sale of home cooking is reported and an exhibit at the Quyon Fair.

**Richmond:** Cleveland held a jumbled word contest and donations for their overseas parcel were brought in. Dennison's Mills presented a gift to a member who was moving away. Gore held a School Fair and Melbourne Ridge found a demonstration on Poultry, by Prof. Mark very instructive. Shipton heard an address on "Education" by Dr. Stevenson and held their annual supper for the W.I. members and their families. Spooner Pond sent sunshine baskets to the ill and a quilt to the Manitoba Flood Relief. Windsor Mills had as guest speaker Mrs. Ignatieff, whose topic was "Education".

**Shefford:** Granby Hill sent 3 boxes of fruit to the sick and articles were brought in for a future sale. South Roxton discussed "Should Women be on the School

Board" and a paper, "Education and the Teacher", was given by the convenor. This branch entertained the county semi-annual. Warden enjoyed a spelling bee with prizes for the winner and the convenor of Education read an article about Queen Mary.

**Sherbrooke:** Ascot had as their guests the teachers of Lennoxville High School and Ascot School. Mr. Dennison, principal of the former school gave an address on "Adult Education". Donations were given to the new Sherbrooke Hospital Linen Fund and to the Cancer Fund. Brompton Road sent a box to a veteran in Montreal, remembered a shut-in and sent birthday cards to members. Cherry River had a quiz contest and Milby made plans for helping with the School Fair at Lennoxville, giving a donation to same. Miss Jean Sutor, convenor of Agriculture, read a helpful article on "Soil Conservation" and a beautiful blanket was presented to a member, Miss Iris Nutbrown, a bride-to-be of the month. Oxford raffled a basket of vegetables, proceeds to go to for the overseas parcel. A letter from Hon. John Bourque, in acknowledgment of petition sent him re Protestant Women's Jail, was read.

**Stanstead:** Beebe entertained six of the teachers at their meeting and Mrs. Smith, the new principal, was the guest speaker. Prizes, to be presented to the pupils at a later date, were on display. At Minton Mrs. N. D. McLeod of Lennoxville, was the guest speaker who gave her impressions of a recent trip to New York and Princeton, N.J. North Hatley featured a lively discussion on three highly controversial topics: Should we have Sex Education in the School? Should we have Religious Education in the School? In the relationship between Home and School, which most to blame. This took the form of a round table discussion and then thrown open to the meeting for five minute comments ("Five hours would not have been long enough for all they wanted to say", the report adds) Stanstead North received first prize at Ayer's Cliff Fair in the Dominion Textile Handicraft Exhibit. The



Members of Vaudreuil-Dorion W.I. and children at their picnic in July.



Newport Women's Club was entertained at this meeting and the local librarian, Mrs. E. Poapst, spoke on the subject, "Library, Books, People".

**Vaudreuil:** Cavagnal donated \$25 to Hudson V.O.N. towards fund being collected for family recently burned out. Prizes were given at the School Fair for flowers, vegetables and the Household Science class. A large sack of vegetables was sent after to the Catherine Booth Hospital. Teachers from the Hudson High School were entertained at the tea hour after their meeting. Vaudreuil-Dorion sent two food parcels overseas. Miss M. Jenkins of Macdonald College gave a talk on "Fabrics and You".

## A Summary

Reading the news, branch by branch, one hardly gets a true picture of the *amount* of work done by the W.I. in that one month. There seems to be a spare corner this time so let's total it up, just for fun. We'll do it under our customary divisions, and remember, there is still the rollcall, which we aren't mentioning but which often forms an important part of the programme.

**Agriculture:** Four School Fairs, plans for one, assistance given with one and prizes given at five more. Gardens judged, two flower contests, demonstration on "Poultry" and two talks: "Agriculture in Hungary" and "Soil Conservation".

**Education:** Six branches, "Welcomes" for their teachers, three gave prizes in their school, another a radio, and still another \$15 to County Scholarship. Paper towels and holders for school. Branches in Gaspé assisted financially with Short Course at Camp Haldimand and 3 W.I. members worked there. Three Quizes on "Education", three debates, "Should Women be on School Board" and a discussion on same topic. Debate, "Does Education pay the Farmer's Wife?" and discussions on; "What Education Really Means", Should we have Sex Education in our Schools, Religious Education in our Schools, and Relationship between Home and School. Talks listed: Progressive Education, New Methods of Teaching — Radio, Films, and other Projects used Today, Education and the Teacher, Adult Education, Library — Books — People, and two on Education. One branch has sold 100 copies of their Tweedsmuir History and lastly — a Spelling Bee for fun.

**Home Economics:** Eight exhibits of handwork at fairs, one Hobby Show and Gaspé held their own W.I. fair. Demonstrations given: Rug-making, Etching on Aluminium Tray, and Angel Cake. Weaving course and rug-making taken from Technician and a class in handicrafts for girls taught by member. Two branches catered for School Fairs and another for local Boys' Band. Prizes given in girl's class at fair. Six food sales, 10 social events to raise funds, travelling baskets and "Tombola" for same purpose. Annual W.I. supper for members and families, recipes exchanged, quilts made, and gifts given to new babies, brides and members leaving. Two talks:

The Well Dressed Woman and Fabrics and You. Trip to Carnation Plant and Paper Mills. One branch sold 300 of their cook books.

**Citizenship:** Installation of plaque re Town Clock (a W.I. project) Resolution re condition of public highway. Danish exhibit at local fair: model school, dining room, hospital, doll in costume, Danish cooking, posters, etc. Eight overseas parcels sent. Talks: England, History of our Locality, Malta and Berlin during the War, Hungary, (by a native of that country) Quebec, Women's Activities and Out-look in Western Canada, What we would like to know about Denmark, Laws in Communistic Countries, Brazil, Queen Mary, Impressions of Trip to New York and Princeton. Items given by members on Denmark and film "Picturesque Denmark" shown. Women's Club, Newport, Vt., entertained and two Dutch newcomers welcomed as members (see Publicity).

**Welfare & Health:** Nearly all branches endorsed resolution re Protestant Women's Jail and sent it to Premier Duplessis. Similar action on letter re Sex Perverts and sent to Federal member. Donations of clothing, quilts and money to Manitoba Flood Relief and clothing to Rimouski. Old cotton sent Cancer Society and two donations of money. Lunch served 200 blood donors at clinic. Apples canned for lunches in school and canning done for hospital. Two branches donated jam, jellies, etc., to hospital another sent vegetables. Donation to Linen Fund for new hospital and Christmas cards sent to Children's Memorial. A hospital bed purchased for use of community, air-cushion for shut-in, box of food to veteran in hospital, cheer to shut-ins of community, donations to Red Cross and V.O.N. Talks: Polio, The Changing Pattern of Medicine, Nutrition.

**Publicity:** Convention well reported in all branches and county semi-annuals entertained. New members (two were Dutch newcomers). Talk on Peace Garden. Contest — Poster Painting. Life membership awarded, and of course, all these reports sent to the Journal and newspapers — each month's duty.



Members of the Women's Institute, Maxville, Ont., who spent a busy day at Macdonald College inspecting the facilities of the Home Economics Department and touring the grounds. This picture was taken on the front steps by one of their group, Mrs. W. J. Hunter.





## THE COLLEGE PAGE

### Support Is Continued For Our Barley Work

Macdonald College was recently presented with a \$3,500 cheque to help carry on its barley breeding work. In making the presentation for the National Barley Improvement Institute, Stuart Molson, governor of the Canadian Brewers' Association, said it was a good investment, as evidenced by the work Macdonald College had done in launching such varieties as Montcalm. This barley, created by Prof. E. A. Lods and introduced by the College a few years ago, had opened up new possibilities in the production of malting barley.

In accepting the cheque, Dean Brittain said that the barley breeding work at the College would not have been possible without the financial support of the brewing and malting interests. This work, he said, had added a great deal to the wealth of Canada as a whole, as well as to the prosperity of many individuals in this country.

Andre Auger, Quebec director of the National Barley Improvement Institute, said that farmers in the Quebec barley competition this year had harvested crops averaging close to fifty bushels to the acre of good barley, and that more than ever before had been sold for malting.

Dr. E. A. Lods, who is Associate Professor of Agronomy at the College, said he appreciated the support given by the industry to studies in barley improvement. Research was now being concentrated on getting better

straw and more resistance to disease, the latter with the help of plant pathologists.

Prof. Lods introduced a graduate student who will be employed, through this grant, in studies at Macdonald in barley breeding. This student, Harold Klinck, is the nephew of Dr. L. S. Klinck, the first Professor of Agronomy at Macdonald College, and who was later the long-term president of the University of British Columbia.

Others who spoke during the ceremony included Andrew Rankin and P. J. Dax of the Canada Malting Company, Frank Jeckell of Ottawa, who is general manager of the Canadian Brewers' Association and promoter of the National Barley Improvement Institute, and H. George Gonthier, secretary-manager of the Quebec Brewers' Association.

### Kiwanis Bursaries For Diploma Students

The Kiwanis Club of Montreal, through its Agricultural Committee, has provided funds to establish five bursaries of \$100 each to students entering the first year of the Diploma Course. These bursaries are restricted to students from the district near and around Montreal, and are offered through the five calf clubs at Huntingdon, Ormstown, Howick, Cowansville, Lachute and Arundel.

The following five boys have been notified by the Selection Committee that they have been awarded bursaries for the coming session: Kenneth Roy, Howick; Rathwell Morrison, Arundel; Arthur Rankin, Huntingdon; Roger Lalonde, Ormstown; George Brown, Cowansville.

Kiwanis of Montreal are most sincere in their interest, and most generous in their support of farm boys who are anxious to improve their position and equip themselves for a larger role in rural life. The Kiwanians believe that, given the opportunity, these future farmers can do much to enrich farm life, and to fortify the relationship between farm and city dwellers.



Stuart Molson presents the \$3,500 cheque to Dean Brittain. Left to right: Col. C. Hugh Hanson, Mr. Molson, Dr. Brittain, Dr. E. A. Lods, Andre Auger.





The five winners of Kiwanis Bursaries; Messrs. Roy, Morri-son, Rankin, Lalonde and Brown.

## Protect Trees from Rodents

Fruit trees need a layer of bark around the trunk in order to live. But rabbits and mice can't see it that way. That's why orchard owners find it necessary to protect tree trunks during the winter months.

While rabbits seldom attack trees that are over 9 years old, mice will do damage regardless of the age of the tree. So it's important to give all fruit trees protection from these pests, reports A. E. Cott, extension horticulturist at Iowa State College.

To keep mice from making nests near the tree trunk, he suggests orchardists scrape a clean area for 3 or 4 feet around the tree. All grass, weeds and mulch must go.

A good guard against both rabbits and mice on young trees is a wire cylinder of 1/2-inch mesh surrounding the tree trunk from 4 inches below the ground surface up to 2 feet above ground. If the cylinder is about 8 inches in diameter, it can be left around a young tree for 7 or 8 years.

A favorite rabbit trick is to reach above the wire guard when snow drifts get high. Cott recommends wrapping burlap sacks around fruit tree trunks above the wire protection, so trees will be covered further up the trunk. This burlap should be removed each spring.

## Turkey Raisers Unite

A group of turkey raisers met at Quebec last month to organize the "Quebec Turkey Raisers' Association". The meeting was presided over by Noe Henault and Ubald Pilon, and it was agreed that the purpose of the new Association would be to take all possible steps to promote the raising of better turkeys in Quebec. Particular attention will be paid to improving flocks so that producers will be able to supply the market with the kind of turkeys it demands, at prices the consumer can afford to pay. Also, export outlets will be sought wherever possible.

During the past five years, turkey production in Quebec has tripled, and the annual production now is over half a million birds. A recent Federal order prohibits the entry to Canada of hatching eggs and turkey chicks from the United States, which means that Western farmers will have to look to Eastern Canada for their supplies. This should be a profitable market for Quebec, for last year, even without the new restrictions, Quebec's sales of hatching eggs to the West amounted to about \$100,000 worth. It is confidently expected that this year's demand will be considerably larger than last year, and prices good.

All turkey raisers in the province are invited to join the new society, the entry fee for which is \$2.00, with dues of \$3.00. Mr. Martial Tardif of Ste. Louise is the president. Headquarters are in Quebec City.

## Apple Crop is Larger

A second estimate of Quebec's apple crop for 1950, recently published by the Dominion Marketing Board, forecasts a total crop of 25,493,000 bushels, which is 19% larger than last year's.

Yields per acre of orchard are 158 bushels, as against 160 for 1949. Comparable figures for the Maritime Provinces are 233 bushels for Prince Edward Island, 225 bushels for Nova Scotia and 275 bushels for New Brunswick. Quebec has the largest volume of production, with Ontario registering 20,152,000 bushels, and the three Maritime Provinces 31,879 bushels.

When production in the Western Provinces is added in, Canada's total apple crop this year will be around 92,272,000 bushels, an increase of 3% over 1949.

## Saw Logs Soon After Felling

Farmers get better grades of lumber from their woodlots if they saw the logs right after they cut down the trees instead of trying to cure the wood in the log. Logs crack around the outside as they dry and this is the area from which the most valuable boards come. Cracked logs make poor lumber.

Besides, the log never will dry out in the center unless it is sawed. Rotting often results from the moisture in the center of logs left in the woodlot to dry.

Green logs also saw easier if stored right, there is no trouble in getting green lumber to cure properly. A firm foundation and plenty of air space between boards are requirements for storing. Boards should be about 1/2 to 1 inch apart with the space between layers about 1 inch.

Top the pile with a layer of poor quality boards over which one layer of slabs should be placed.

## What Is A Prune?

A prune is a variety of plum which dries without spoiling. European varieties with their firm meaty flesh and high solids content are most popular.





THE MACDONALD LASSIE